

*The journey ahead involves the land, the Traditional Custodians, the local Indigenous community, the wider community and the Council itself. Walking and listening together to create a culturally rich and safe community for all.*

# Country Culture Connection

# Knox City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung people and Bunurong people of the Kulin Nation as Traditional Custodians of the land.



**The Knox Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community come from a variety of different Nations within Australia and Torres Strait, including the Traditional Custodians and Stolen Generation.**

As such we pay respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, past and present, who have lived in the area and been an integral part of the region's history.

Knox has important cultural and historical sites that hold both the traditional knowledge of the First People and the traumatic stories of colonisation. Cultural sites include campsites, stone tools, scar trees, and travelling routes. Before settlement, Knox would have been a place of meeting between the Wurundjeri and Bunurong people.

In 2021 Knox City Council agreed to promote a more "whole of business" approach to our acknowledgement and respect of First Nations people. Part of this approach has been the identification of five key areas of focus for our future efforts and collaboration.

These include:

- Health and Wellbeing: to support the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community to flourish through a holistic, whole of life-cycle view of health.
- Recognition and Respect: to increase awareness and appreciation of a culture and civilisation which has enriched our history for at least 65,000 years.
- Employment and Economic Development: to improve access to employment and investment in economic development. Both are essential to bridge the gap of inequality between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people.
- Civic Participation: to ensure our community feels valued, safe and recognised is vital for meaningful and effective civic participation.
- Cultural Heritage: to improve access to land and protection of cultural heritage as both play a significant role in Aboriginal culture.

To find out more visit [knox.vic.gov.au/aboriginal](https://knox.vic.gov.au/aboriginal), call the Community Wellbeing team on **9298 8000** or email [Adrian.greenwood@knox.vic.gov.au](mailto:Adrian.greenwood@knox.vic.gov.au)